

REMARKS

The office action of July 28, 2009, has been carefully considered.

It is noted that claim 1 is objected to for containing various informalities.

Claims 1-4, 7, 14 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over the patent to Bessiere in view of the patent to Weld.

Claims 5 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Bessiere in view of Weld, and further in view of the patent to Gram et al.

Claims 8-10 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Bessiere in view of Weld.

Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Bessiere in view of Weld.

Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Bessiere in view of Weld, and further in view of the patent to Miyazaki.

In view of the Examiner's objection to and rejections of the claims, applicant has canceled claim 5, and amended claims 1 and 6.

Applicant has amended claim 1 to correct the informalities pointed out by the Examiner. In view of these considerations it is respectfully submitted that the objection to claim 1 is overcome and should be withdrawn.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims presently on file differ essentially and in an unobvious, highly advantageous manner from the constructions disclosed in the references.

Turning now to the references and particularly to the patent to Bessiere, it can be seen that this patent discloses a self-regulating reciprocating action pump. The pressure generator 11, 13 and the pressure booster 1, 3, 4 are arranged in a common housing. The pressure generator and the pressure booster are arranged along a common line. Bessiere does not disclose or suggest or teach a housing made of more than one part. However, if one skilled in the art were to separate the pump of Bessiere into two parts, the simplest way would be in a plane parallel to the

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drawing of Bessiere. A construction having multiple housing parts with joining surfaces that form an interface between the pressure generator and the pressure booster, as in the presently claimed invention, is not taught by Bessiere. Bessiere also does not teach a tank rigidly connected with the combination of the pressure generator and the pressure booster, which tank holds the portion of fluid for driving the pressure booster, as in the presently claimed invention.

The patent to Weld discloses a fluid pressure driven pump in which a pressure generator 30, 31 and a pressure booster 1, 2 are arranged in different housing parts, which housing parts are connected along joining surfaces that define a separating point between the pressure generator and the pressure booster. The supply unit of Weld does not teach a switching valve between the pressure generator and the low pressure piston of the pressure booster. Weld also does not teach a tank rigidly connected with the combination of the pressure generator and the pressure booster, which tank holds the portion of fluid for driving the pressure booster, as in the presently claimed invention.

The Examiner combined these references in determining that claims 1-4 and 7-15 would be unpatentable over such a combination.

Applicant submits that neither of these references, taken alone or in combination, teaches a supply unit having a housing constructed of more than one part, wherein two of the housing parts have a joining surface, and wherein the joining surfaces together form an interface between the pressure generator and the pressure booster. The references further do not teach a tank rigidly connected with the combination of the pressure generator and the pressure booster, which tank holds the portion of fluid for driving the pressure booster, as in the presently claimed invention.

In view of these considerations it is respectfully submitted that rejection of claims 1-4 and 7-15 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over a combination of the above-discussed references is overcome and should be withdrawn.

The patent to Gram et al. discloses a compressed natural gas cylinder pump and reverse cascade fuel supply system. The Examiner combined this reference with Bessiere and weld in determining that claims 5 and 6 would be unpatentable over such a combination. Gram et al. give no teaching of a tank rigidly connected with a combination of a pressure generator and a pressure booster. In Fig. 1, Gram et al. schematically show a tank 28 directly adjacent

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the hydraulic pump 26. However, there is no mention in the entire reference of a rigid connection between the two. Furthermore, even if one could consider the tank to be connected to the pressure generator, there is no teaching of a tank connected rigidly to a combination of a pressure generator and a pressure booster. In Gram et al. there are flexible lines 34, 36 between the pressure generator 36 and the pressure booster 35. Thus, the fluid stored in the tank is not pressurized by the pressure booster, but rather is only used to drive the pressure generator (see col. 5, lines 41-43). With the help of the pressure booster 24, gas from the storage tanks 2-8 is compressed. Thus, there is no teaching by the references individually or in combination of a fluid supply unit having a tank rigidly connected with the combination of the pressure generator and the pressure booster, which tank holds the portion of fluid for driving the pressure booster, as in the presently claimed invention.

In view of these considerations, it is respectfully submitted that the rejections of claims 5-6 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is overcome and should be withdrawn.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

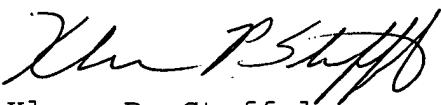


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Any additional fees or charges required at this time in connection with this application may be charged to Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 11-1835.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on November 30, 2009.

By:


Klaus P. Stoffel

Date: November 30, 2009